struction of Talcher-Sambalpur railway line in Orissa;

(b) the funds earmarked for that line during 1992-93 financial year; and

(c) when the project is likely to be completed and opened for traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 25% upto 12/91.

(b) Rs. 20.00 crores.

(c) The expected date of completion is 3/94.

**Epidemics in Tribal Areas**

4404. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have inquired into the causes of the recent outbreak of epidemics in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for prevention of such epidemics in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The recent Outbreaks or epidemics in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa were investigated by teams of experts from National Institute of Communicable Diseases and Indian Council of Medical Research. In most of the cases the outbreak of gastroenteritis and cholera epidemic were found to have been caused by contamination of drinking water sources. Flooding of sludging of garbage/excreta, poor socio-economic conditions, lack of personal hygiene and insufficient health education further aggravated the problem.

(c) Health being a State subject, it is for the State Governments to take appropriate action to prevent such epidemics. However, whenever the technical teams from National Institute of Communicable Diseases/Indian Council of Medical Research visited the affected areas, they have made suitable suggestions/recommendations to the local Health Authorities regarding necessary preventive measures to be taken.

**Quota of Berths at Pathankot**

4405 SHRI D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allot quota of berths at Pathankot in all trains running via Pathankot;

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Reservation quotas have already been allotted at Pathankot in trains having reserved accommodation and provided stoppage at this station.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Damage to Railway Property**

4406. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: